

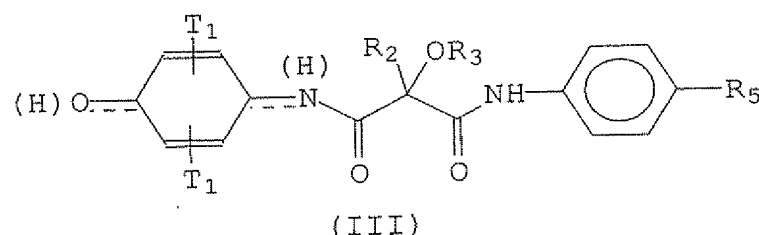
**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

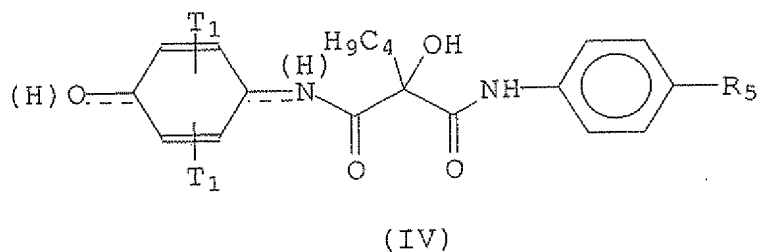
1-2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) ~~A compound as claimed in claim 1~~ An optionally substituted compound of formula III:



wherein each  $T_1$  is independently, absent, hydrogen or an  $S-R_6$  group, where any/each  $R_6$  is independently an organic group of molecular weight up to around 500 amu,  $R_2$  is an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkaryl, aralkyl, arylsulphonylalkyl or aralkenyl group, and  $R_3$  is hydrogen or a  $C_2-C_7$ , acyl, or alkaryl group as described in claim 1 and  $R_5$  is hydrogen or an alkyl, alkenyl group, OH, O-alkyl, O-acyl, SH, S-alkyl, S-acyl, halo, or amino group. ~~Preferred  $R_5$  groups are hydrogen, OH and O-acyl.~~

4. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3 of formula IV, or a salt thereof;



wherein  $R_5$  is hydrogen or OH and each  $T_1$  is, independently, H or a glutathione moiety attached via the sulphur atom thereof.

5. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3 wherein both  $T_1$  groups are independently thiols, attached by the sulphur atom thereof.

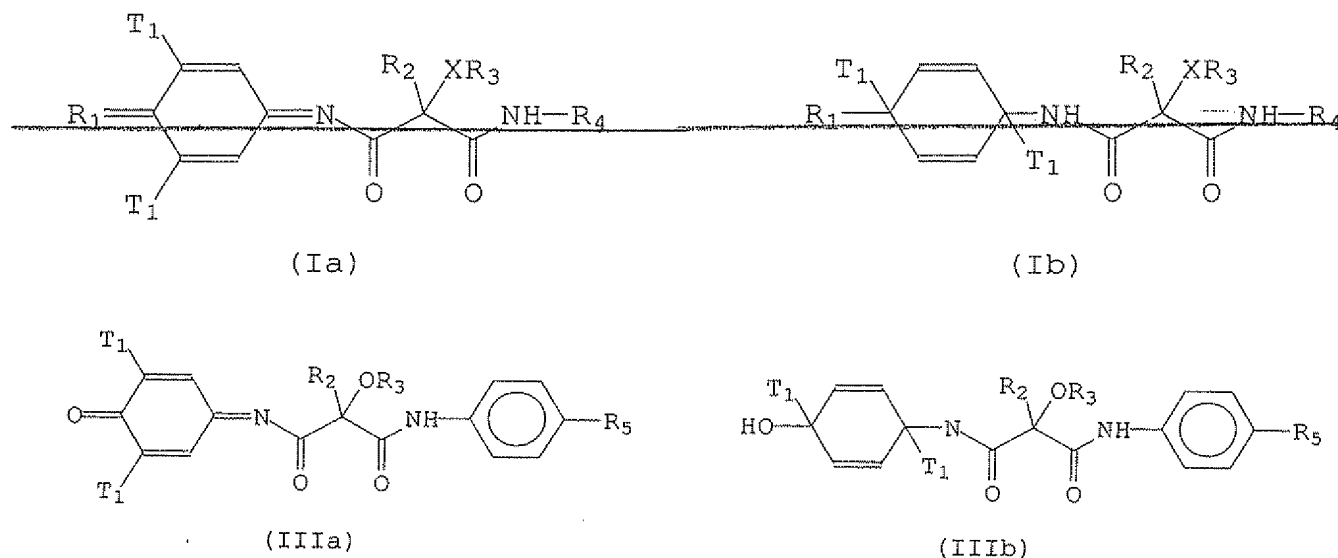
6. (previously presented) A compound as claimed in claim 5 wherein both of said thiols are independently glutathione or cysteine.

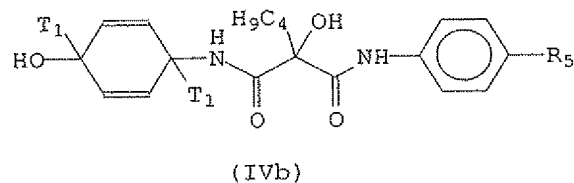
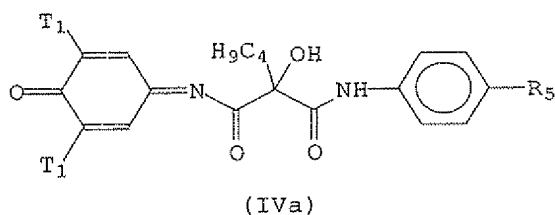
7. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3 wherein both  $T_1$  groups are hydrogen.

8. (currently amended) A compound of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3 wherein the two  $T_1$  groups are independently ortho or meta to group  $R_1$ .

9. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3 wherein one  $T_1$  group is ipso to group  $R_1$  and one  $T_1$  group is para to group  $R_1$ .

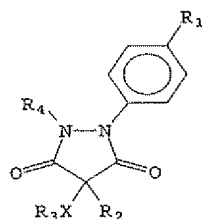
10. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3 having a formula ~~Ia, Ib, IIIa, IIIb, IVa and/or IVb~~





wherein  $R_1$ - $R_5$ ,  $T_1$  and  $X$  are as defined in claim [[1]] 3.

11. (currently amended) A method for the synthesis of a compound as defined in claim [[1]] 3 by ring-opening of a starting material of formula II



wherein  $T_1$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$  and  $X$  are as defined in claim [[1]] 3, or protected derivatives or precursors thereof.

12. (previously presented) A method of claim 11 wherein the two  $T_1$  groups are independently ortho or beta to group  $R_1$ .

13. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 11 wherein a compound of formula II having hydrogens at both  $T_1$  positions is subjected to ring-opening followed by reaction with a thiol to provide a compound as claimed in claim [[1]] 3 wherein at least one  $T_1$  group is a thiol.

14-18. (cancelled)

Application No. 10/565,506  
Amendment dated: September 18, 2009

19. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, carrier or diluent.

20. (cancelled)